



2008 Preserve America Middle and High School (7-12) HISTORY TEACHER OF THE YEAR AWARD
Sponsored by The Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History

The Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History and *Preserve America* announce the fifth annual *Preserve America* History Teacher of the Year Award, which honors outstanding teachers of American history across the country. The Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History, founded in 1994, promotes the study and love of American history. Increasingly national and international in scope, the Institute's programs and initiatives serve audiences ranging from students to scholars to the general public. *Preserve America* is a White House initiative that encourages and supports community efforts to preserve America's historic, cultural and natural heritage.

The **History Teacher of the Year Award**, under the rubric of *Preserve America*, recognizes outstanding American history teachers from elementary school through high school, and the crucial importance of American history education. Winners are selected from each of the fifty states, the District of Columbia, Department of Defense schools, and U.S. Territories. These winners in turn, become finalists for the National History of the Year designation. The national honoree is recognized as the National *Preserve America* History Teacher of the Year.

For 2008, all **middle and high school (7-12)** teachers who have responsibility for teaching American history are eligible for nomination. Winners will be chosen based on several criteria.

Qualifying Criteria

- At least three years of classroom experience in teaching American history.
- A deep career commitment to teaching American history, which includes local and state history.
- Evidence of creativity and imagination in the classroom that address literacy and content beyond state standards.
- Close attention to primary documents, artifacts, historic sites, and other primary sources including oral history.
- Evidence of thoughtful assessment of student achievement.

Eligibility

- Any full-time middle or high school teacher may be nominated who teaches American history (including local and state history) as his or her primary subject, or one of the subjects he or she is responsible for in the classroom.
- Nominations can be made by a department or division head, a school director, social studies director, principal, or superintendent.

Procedure

Nomination packages must be submitted in the following document order:

- The nominee's resume
- A full letter of nomination that addresses the award criteria and includes quantitative measures of student achievement.
- Nominations can be made by a department or division head, a school director, social studies director, principal or superintendent.
- A letter of support from a colleague, immediate supervisor, or education professional familiar with the nominee's work.
- A one-page statement of the nominee's philosophy of teaching American history.
- A sample lesson plan, no longer than 3 pages. Primary document attachments are not included in the page limitation.
- A sample extended project assigned to students, demonstrating use of primary documents, artifacts, historic sites, etc. Nominees can include up to ten pages of student work in this category.
- An 8-10 minute video, which is not a class session, but a segment during which the nominee demonstrates class projects, and discusses his or her most effective teaching practices, and how student achievement is assessed. Students are not present in the video.

Please submit an original and three copies of all written materials.

Deadlines

All submission packages must be postmarked to the state coordinator by April 25, 2008.

Awards

Idaho's state recipient will be honored at the Idaho Council for History Education Annual Conference, October 2-3, 2008. The Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History honors each state winner with an award of \$1,000 in their home state. The Institute also presents their school with an archive of primary historical materials, named in honor of that teacher, for use in the school library or resource center. Winners are selected in each state by panels of distinguished history educators under the supervision of the Gilder Lehrman Institute and *Preserve America*. The state award is sponsored by the Idaho Council for History Education.

Submitting Nominations

Any questions about eligibility or procedures should be addressed to the state coordinator or to the national coordinator:

Whitney Moses
 Education Coordinator
 The *Preserve America* HTOY Award
 The Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History
 19 West 44th Street, Suite 500
 New York, NY 10036
 Email: moses@gilderlehrman.org

Peter Kavouras
 Idaho Award Coordinator
 The *Preserve America* HTOY Award
 650 West State Street
 Boise, ID 83720-0027
 Phone: 208-332-6974
 Email: pgkavouras@sde.idaho.gov